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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/792,122

03/03/2004

Steven T. Antoch

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EXAMINER

GOFMAN, ALEX N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2162

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/10/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/792,122

Applicant(s)

ANTOCH, STEVEN T.

Examiner

Alex Gofman

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,7-12,14,16 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,7-12,14,16 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 18, 2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-4, 7-12, 14, 16, and 18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject

matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The newly added limitation states, “the model element class storing an attribute value in a private member field of the *model element class in the same memory block as a declared nested handler class...*” (relevant part in Italics). The specification of the instant application in paragraph [30] states “The inlined field values of the present invention are located in the same memory block as the declaring class.” According to the cited section, the inlined field values are stored in the same memory block as a declaring class. A declared nested handler class is different from a declaring class. Thus, Claims 1 and 9 fail to enable one skilled in the art to use the invention.

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The newly added limitation states, “the model element class storing an attribute value in a private member field of the model element class in the *same memory block* as a declared nested

handler class..." (relevant part in *Italics*). However, that part of the limitation is contrary to the preamble, which in part states, "the data structure separating storage of an attribute value from handling of the attribute value." Also, the newly added limitation is contrary to the last limitation of the Claims which states "wherein the storage of the attribute value is separate from handling of the attribute value." As a summary, the Claims contain contradictory limitations, one limitation states that values and the handler class is stored in the same memory block and another limitation states that the storage and the handling of the attributes are separate. Thus, Claim 1 and 9 are indefinite for failing to point out a specific invention.

7. In view of the rejections made for claims being not enabled (under 35 USC 112 1st paragraph), as well as the rejections made for the claims being indefinite (under 35 USC 112 2nd paragraph), the Examiner cannot clearly interpret Claims 1 and 9 (and their dependent Claims) of the instant Application in order to conduct a useful and effective search. Claims 1 and 9 of the instant Application are therefore, considered unsearchable for prior art. The claims must be amended to overcome the above referenced rejections, upon which the Examiner will conduct the appropriate search for prior art. Claims 16 and 18 will be examined since they do not present the above-mentioned problems.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wall et al (US Patent Application Publication 2002/0087557), hereinafter, Wall in view of Matula et al (US Patent Application Publication 2002/0165995), hereinafter, Matula.

Claim 16: Wall discloses a method implemented at least in part by a computing device, the computing device accessing an attribute value within a data structure, the data structure separating storage of the attribute value from handling of the attribute value, the method comprising:

a) storing the attribute value in a private member field of a model element class [0064-0065].

c) issuing a get value function to obtain the attribute value from the model element class [0040, 0064].

d) receiving the attribute value from the model element class, wherein the get value function is configured to access the model element class and to return the attribute value directly upon request [0065].

wherein the storage of the attribute value is separate from handling of the attribute value [0060, 0065].

Wall discloses wherein a handler class has public access to an enclosing element's private members stored in the private member field of the model element class [0065], but does not explicitly disclose declaring a nested handler class, the nested handler class being a subclass of a generic handler class and inherits base functionality from the generic handler class. However, Matula does [0051]. A nested handler class, a subclass in Matula, is created in order to generate a particular instance of an interface. Once the instance is created, the value retrieved by the subclass is stored in the main class.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to declare a nested handler class, the nested handler class being a subclass of a generic handler class and inherits base functionality from the generic handler class. One would have been motivated to do so in order to store a value requested in the main requesting class.

Claim 18: Wall discloses A method implemented at least in part by a computing device, the computing device setting an attribute value within a data structure, the data structure separating storage of the attribute value from handling of the attribute value, the method comprising:

a) storing the attribute value in a private member field of a model element class [0064-0065].

b) issuing a set value function to set the attribute value for the model element class [0040, 0064].

c) setting the attribute value;

d) storing the attribute value in the model element class, wherein the nested handler class is configured to directly access data in the model element class as the nested handler class has public access to the private members of the model element class [0065].

wherein the storage of the attribute value is separate from handling of the attribute value [0060, 0065].

Wall discloses wherein a handler class has public access to an enclosing element's private members stored in the private member field of the model element class [0065], but does not explicitly disclose declaring a nested handler class, the nested handler class being a subclass of a generic handler class and inherits base functionality from the generic handler class. However, Matula does

[0051]. A nested handler class, a subclass in Matula, is created in order to generate a particular instance of an interface. Once the instance is created, the value is set by the subclass is stored in the main class.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to declare a nested handler class, the nested handler class being a subclass of a generic handler class and inherits base functionality from the generic handler class. One would have been motivated to do so in order to store a value set in the main requesting class.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex Gofman whose telephone number is (571)270-1072. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am-3pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571)272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/792,122
Art Unit: 2162

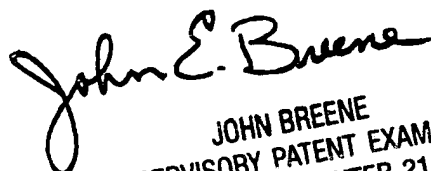
Page 9

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AG

12-20-07

Alex Gofman
Examiner
Art Unit 2162


JOHN BREENE
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